

Our Purpose

To examine Arizona Special Education State Board 401 rules, to propose rules that are clear, instructive, and aligned to the IDEA, and to provide guidance for implementation.

Core Team

Kristina Blackledge
Advocate & SEAP Member

Angela Denning
Arizona Department of Education
Deputy Associate Superintendent

Craig Carter
Director of Special Services
Washington Elem School District

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Kristen Hartsuff
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Lorraine McPherson
Treasurer, AZCEC

Kimberly Peaslee,
Parent & Chairperson of CAC & SEAP
Member

Heidi Sinkovic
Director of ESS, The Leona Group

Chris Tiffany, Raising Special Kids &
SEAP Member

Our Group Norms

- We engage in active listening
- We seek to understand
- We strive for a collective impact
- We honor the communication plan
- We support working for the greater good
- Our communication is timely and accurate
- We use rubrics to evaluate our work
- We need to learn and "unlearn"
- Reflection is critical to our success

Consensus--A two tiered approach:

The Core Team will work toward unanimous consensus on every issue. If not an unanimous consensus the group will use a supermajority vote (11/13).

Rule Committee – Core Team October 20, 2014 Communiqué

Core Team Attendees: Wendy Collison, Beth Conran, Mollie Casson, Kim Peaslee, Craig Carter, Christopher Tiffany, Lorraine McPherson, Sarah Gamble

ADE Support Staff: Angela Denning, William McQueary, Lisa Aaroe, Maura Mall, Melissa De Vries, Cindy Bolewski

Meeting Location: ADE on Osborn

You've got to think about big things while you're doing small things, so that all the small things go in the right direction.

GOAL for Today: Complete the proposed rule on SLD eligibility.

What we did:

- We reviewed feedback from the field via the ESS Inbox, Oregon's model for determining SLD eligibility, information from John Copenhaver re: SLD eligibility, and written recommendations from the committee members.
- We engaged in significant discussion of how much information regarding SLD into proposed rule from being general allowing most flexibility or more specific and prescriptive addressing individual sub-diagnoses of Learning Disabilities.

What we learned.

- We learned that a specific learning disability can be determined by the evaluation team based on one or more of the following three eligibility criteria (underachievement, RtI, PSW):
 - a) The student has a specific learning disability because the student does not achieve adequately for the student's age or meet State-approved grade-level standards in one or more of the identified areas when provided with learning experiences and instruction appropriate for the student's age or State-approved grade-level standards.
 - b) The student did not make sufficient progress to meet age or State-approved grade-level standards in one or more of the identified areas using a process based on the student's response to scientific, research-based intervention.
 - c) The student exhibited a pattern of strengths and weaknesses in performance, achievement, or both, relative to age, State-approved grade-level standards or intellectual development, determined to be relevant to the identification of a specific learning disability using appropriate assessments.
- We learned that the committee needs to remind itself of the agreed upon decision to only put in rule what clarifies IDEA and not to reiterate or repeat IDEA.

What we accomplished.

- We revised and finalized the Evaluation and Eligibility Procedures proposed rules sections to be congruent.
- We planned the presentation of the committee to the large group meeting which will be held on 11/14/14 from 10:00-12:00 a.m. at 1535 W. Jefferson. We will present the draft rule on Evaluation/Reevaluation, Evaluation Procedures, and Eligibility. We will seek input on recommendations for the IEP section (see Current-Proposed-Guidance document)
- We finalized a draft of recommended rule changes for SLD Eligibility Determination.
- We determined that there will be a recommendation to remove current rule for Parent Consent as Parent Consent process will be covered integrated and embedded into each area of rule.
- We began reviewing current rule and documents on the IEP.

Next Steps:

- There will be a large group meeting at ADE on Jefferson on 11/14/14 from 10:00 – 12:00 am.
- Next committee meeting on 11/14/14 at ADE on Jefferson rooms 311-312 will commence on the conclusion of the large group meeting.
- At that meeting the committee will review input from large group and begin work on the IEP.

Notes:

**Rule Making Core Committee
October 3, 2014 Communiqué**

We Want to Hear from You!

- Please send your comments to AZBoardRuleCommitteeInBox@azed.gov . We look forward to hearing from the community at large, Key Advisors and Extended Partners on our work to date and future agenda items. These documents along with key documents are posted on the Director's Corner at:
- <http://www.azed.gov/special-education/category/directors-corner/>